(c) whether any opportunity was given to the complainants to be present at the time of the enquiry and give their own statement or adduce other evidence?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) No statement was received by the Government. The Government obtained a report on seeing the statement published in *Swarajya* and found the allegation about beating in the Police lock-up to be totally false. The persons mentioned with the crowd that collected were dispersed after warning, but they were not taken to the Washermanpet Police station or beaten there.

Alleged cruelty on the part of the Police at Robertsonpet, Masulipatam.

* 7 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received a letter from Sjt. P. Ghanta Reddi complaining that himself and J. Pattabhi Ramayya were taken by the Police of Robertsonpet Police station, Masulipatam, on the 27th March 1932 to the said Police station and that the Police beat Pattabhi Ramayya and that Mr. Ghanta Reddi who was taken to the lock up, was kicked on the chest and back by the Police and also beaten, and that one head constable spat on his face; if so, whether he will be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table of the House;

(*b*) whether any enquiry was held on the same; if so, whether the said complainant was examined or any statement was taken from him or any opportunity was given to him to be present at the time of the enquiry and adduce evidence; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes. A copy[a] of the letter is placed on the table of the House.

(*b*) & (*c*) The District Magistrate has made such enquiry as he found necessary. It was open to the two persons mentioned to complain to the District Magistrate, if they were prepared to substantiate the facts alleged. If they have not done so, the Government do not propose to take any further action.

Alleged detention of three ladies in unlawful custody by the Ellore Police.

* 8 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Srimathi Mudumbi Venkatamma, Javaj Rajaratnamma, Maddula Damayantamma, were arrested on the 18th March in Ellore for distributing Congress pamphlets and released on 2nd April 1932;

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 103 infra.

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(*b*) under what provision of law the Police arrested them and kept them for such a length of time in the sub-jail without their being charge-sheeted and brought before the Sub-Magistrate for trial;

(*c*) in whose custody were the said ladies during their detention; and

(*d*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) On 18th March 1932 the three persons were found exhorting students in the Ellore High School compound to take part in Congress activity, and distributing Congress leaflets. They were arrested for having committed an offence under section 17 (1) of the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908, and remanded to custody pending investigation by the Police as to who had instigated them to commit the offence and as to the origin of the Congress leaflets. Investigation showed that these persons were of minor importance and were merely tools in the hands of others. It was therefore decided not to prosecute them. They were released on 2nd April 1932 within the period of 15 days remand permissible under section 167, Criminal Procedure Code, for purpose of Police investigation.

(*c*) They were under custody in the Sub-Jail, Ellore.

(*d*) None.

Search of the Khadi depot of the Andhra branch of the All-India Spinners Association at Nidadavole.

* 9 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Police searched the premises and the Khadi depot of the Andhra branch of the All-India Spinners Association at Nidadavole; and

(*b*) whether they seized any account books, and if so, what books, how many, and why; and whether they have been since returned; if not, why not?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for it.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know whether the information called for has not yet been received by the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

Alleged handcuffing of Congress volunteers under arrest.

* 10 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether two Congress volunteers Basappa and Mahabala Alva who were arrested by the Police of Mangalore in about March were